MAT-8242US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Kazunori Hayashi et al.

: Art Unit:

To Be Assigned

Serial No.:

To Be Assigned

: Examiner:

To Be Assigned

Filed:

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For:

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following Japanese patents are not in the English language, but English abstracts thereof are attached to the copies of the patents submitted herewith: 06-337774, 07-140999 and 11-143483.

This information disclosure statement is being filed with the filing of the above-referenced application. No fee or certification is required. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

- 2 -

Respectfully Submitted,

Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515

Attorney for Applicants

LEA/fp

Dated: March 1, 2002

Enclosures:

PTO Form 1449

Copies of (3) References w/English Abstracts

Suite 301, One Westlakes, Berwyn P.O. Box 980 Valley Forge, PA 19482-0980 (610) 407-0700

The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. **18-0350** of any fees associated with this communication.

EXPRESS MAIL Mailing Label Number: EV 029 154 975 US Date of Deposit: March 1, 2002

I hereby certify that this paper and fee are being deposited, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 and with sufficient postage, using the "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service of the United States Postal Service on the date indicated above and that the deposit is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

KATHLEEN LIBBY

FORM PTO-1449

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FORM PTO-1449 (Rev. 2-32)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

(Use several sheets if necessary)

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STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Kazunori Hayashi et al.

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date |
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial | Document Number | Data | Country | Class | Sub | Transl | |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------|----------------------------|-------|-------|----------|----|
| Initial | Number | Date | Country | Class | Class | YES | NO |
| | 06-337774 | 12/06/94 | Japan (w/English abstract) | | | Х | |
| | 07-140999 | 06/02/95 | Japan (w/English abstract) | | | X | |
| | 11-143483 | 05/28/99 | Japan (w/English abstract) | | | X | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| Examiner | Date Considered |
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Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

USPTO Form 1449

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